



**U.S. Department of
Transportation**

Office of the Secretary
of Transportation

DEPT. OF TRANSPORTATION
DOCKETS
Assistant Secretary

1200 New Jersey Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20590

NOV 04 2008 10:01:11 A 9:15

The Honorable Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor of Indiana
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, IN 46204

Dear Governor Daniels:

Thank you for your letter of October 16, supporting a request by American Airlines, British Airways, Iberia Airlines, Finnair, and Royal Jordanian for a grant of antitrust immunity to operate an integrated alliance. The Secretary has asked that I respond on her behalf.

The U.S. Department of Transportation's review of this request is part of a public proceeding in which interested parties have the opportunity to comment. The Department carefully considers all requests for antitrust immunity, beginning with a review of the record to assess whether there is sufficient information to make a reasoned decision that satisfies all statutory requirements. Decisions regarding requests for antitrust immunity are made after consultation with the Department of Justice, and are based upon statutory standards that include antitrust principles. As this proceeding is pending, I am sure you understand that I cannot comment on the merits of the case. I assure you, however, that the Department will give full and fair consideration to the Joint Applicants' request, as well as all comments in the docket.

As is our normal practice, I am placing a copy of your letter and this response in Docket OST-2008-0252 as a contact outside the record in this matter. I appreciate your interest in this proceeding.

Sincerely yours,

Michael W. Reynolds
Acting Assistant Secretary for
Aviation and International Affairs



STATE OF INDIANA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
State House, Second Floor
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr.
Governor

October 16, 2008

The Honorable Mary Peters
Secretary
U.S. Department of Transportation
1200 New Hersey Ave, SE
Washington, DC 20590
Docket DOT-OST-2008-0252

Dear Secretary Peters:

I write to join the General Managers of Indiana's three airports currently serviced by American Airlines, to request your approval of the application for antitrust immunity filed by American Airlines, British Airways, Iberia, Finnair and Royal Jordanian. Approval of this application in its current form would enable these five oneworld alliance airlines, which operate transatlantic service, to work closely together to deliver highly competitive flight schedules, fares and service. Approval of the application will also allow these five airlines to compete on equal footing with Star and SkyTeam alliances, which currently enjoy broad antitrust immunity for transatlantic flights.

I further ask your approval of American, British Airways and Iberia's request to establish a joint business agreement for operations between North America and Europe, creating a more efficient and comprehensive transatlantic network for their customers. This action, approving a third competitive air alliance, will have a positive impact on air travel by offering customers more service, scheduling and pricing options.

Thank you for your time and consideration of the application before you regarding American Airlines.

Respectfully,

Mitch Daniels